AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Bureau on 01 September 2003 (01.09.03): original claims 1-10 replaced by amended claims 1-10 (2 pages)] and statement

CLAIMS

1. A method for bending and tempering of a glass (G), in which method the glass is first heated in oven into bending temperature and it is moved over known transfer means, like rotating rollers (R) and after the glass has reached bending temperature it is transferred into a bending section, in which the glass (G) is allowed to bend on special bending ring (BR), and the said transferring the glass onto the bending ring (BR) takes place by moving the glass horizontally by transfer force exerted onto it, **characterized** in that when the glass arrives into the location of the bending ring (BR), the supporting of the glass (G) by rollers from below is changed into air flow supporting by directing air onto the bottom surface of the glass and the horizontal height level of the glass is maintained by forming planar glass elevation stop means (CP) above the glass at the location of the bending ring (BR) and further by blowing air through the elevation stop means so that air film is formed in between the glass and glass elevation stop means, said blowing preventing glass elevation and eliminating touching of the glass with elevation stop means.

2. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the air blow onto the bottom surface of the glass is achieved through various nozzles (SU) arranged on the same level.

3. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the nozzles (SU) can be lowered down one by one or the whole nozzle chamber (SP) can be lowered to down position.

4. A method according to the claim 1 **is known** in that the supporting effect on to the glass (G) is achieved by forming a chamber (BC) under the glass and the chamber has open face towards the glass and directing air flow towards the glass from below.

5. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the glass elevation stop means is perforated plate or nozzle plate and air is blown through the holes and the dynamic effect of this blowing is remarkably lower than the blow directed on the bottom surface of the glass.

6. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the glass is moved over the mould (BP) by transfer force achieved by rollers (R).

7. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the glass is transferred over the mould (BR) by wheel (CR) located in the area of the mould and under the glass.

8. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that for transferring the glass by roller (R), air jets are directed on the on the top surface of the glass so that they press the glass down substantially on the location of the roller (R) in order to improve the transfer effect.

9. A method according to the claim 1 **characterized** in that the entrance and stopping of the glass over the mould is assisted by mechanical stoppers (Sp), (Ss), and out of their contact surfaces air is blown out against the edge of the glass.

10. An equipment for glass (G) bending and bending and tempering oven includes glass heating section for glass heating up to bending temperature and glass transfer means, like rotating rollers (R) over which the glass in bending temperature is transferred into bending section, in which bending mould (BR) is located and on which the glass is allowed to bend before tempering, **characterized** in that for transferring the glass onto the bending mould (BR), the equipment includes under the glass and at the location of the bending ring (BR), an air blowing system by which system the rollers (R), which are supporting the glass, are substituted and for maintaining the horizontal heigt level of the glass during the transfer, said equipment includes planar glass elevation stop means (CP) located above the glass at the location of the bending ring (BR), which stop means further includes an air blowing arrangement (Bcp) and perforated plate or set of nozzles arranged in planar form so that air film is formed between the glass (G) and glass elevation stop means.